

quality of life. Prominent efforts include Project Shepherd, Volunteer Day, Meals on Wheels, Pathways Volunteer Hospice, Friends of the Lakewood Libraries, Lakewood Education Foundation and many more.

The city will be celebrating their 60th anniversary of Incorporation with an open house that will include galleries of historic photos from city archives, portraits of original 1954 homeowners, and other photographs submitted by residents. As the city celebrates this occasion, I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the city and residents of Lakewood as they celebrate the past and focus on a prosperous future.

RECOGNIZING THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH IN PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 21, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the One Hundredth Anniversary of Macedonia Baptist Church of Pensacola, Florida. Throughout the one hundred years of its presence, the pastoral leadership and congregation of Macedonia Baptist Church has provided uplifting and spiritually fortifying service to the Gulf Coast region, and I am privileged to honor their dedication to the Northwest Florida community.

Macedonia Baptist Church traces its roots back to the inspiration of Mother Lula Farris in 1913. Established as Long Faith Baptist Church in 1914 with Reverend Holmes as its first pastor, the church's name was later changed to Macedonia Baptist Church of Pensacola, Florida.

The strength of the congregation and its leadership throughout the church's history is exemplified through its continued growth and commitment to achieve excellence in providing Biblical guidance and Christian education. An integral part of the Baptist Church community, Macedonia Baptist Church has served in various roles, including its active participation in the Florida General Baptist Convention and the licensing of several pastors.

Today, and remarkably for the last 63 consecutive years, Macedonia Baptist Church has been led under the devoted guidance of the Reverend A.L. Durant, Sr., and as a true testament to God's work through His people, the church continues to build God's kingdom and foster spiritual and professional growth by providing religious direction and philanthropy to church members and the surrounding community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pleasure to commemorate the centennial anniversary of Macedonia Baptist Church in Pensacola, Florida. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating their pastoral leadership and congregation. May the Spirit of the Lord continue to bless the church on this important milestone and the many to come.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 3189

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 21, 2014

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following:

ASPEN SNOWMASS,
ASPEN SKIING COMPANY,
Aspen, CO, October 11, 2013.

Re Support for H.R. 3189, the Water Rights Protection Act

HON. DOC HASTINGS,
Chairman, House Natural Resources Committee, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN: I am writing on behalf of Aspen Skiing Company, a four-season resort in Aspen and Snowmass Village, Colorado. We employ 3,600 people in winter and host 1.3 million visitors at our four ski mountains, 18 restaurants and two hotels. Most of our operations take place on National Forest System lands under a special use permit from the U.S. Forest Service.

As you are likely aware, the USFS is trying to require the transfer of privately held water rights to the federal government as a permit condition on National Forest lands. There is no compensation for the transfer of these privately held rights despite the fact that many stakeholders have invested millions of their own capital in developing the rights.

I'm writing in support of H.R. 3189, the Water Rights Protection Act, to address this

unfair situation. This bill would prevent the federal government from making an end run around state law by taking water rights that it does not own through its permitting authority.

Thank you for scheduling a hearing on H.R. 3189 and for your leadership on this issue. It means a great deal to Aspen Skiing Company and other Colorado ski resorts operating on federal lands.

Best Regards,

DAVID PERRY,
Senior Vice President.

TRUCKEE-CARSON
IRRIGATION DISTRICT,
Fallon, NE, March 13, 2014.

Re Support for "Water Rights Protection Act" (H.R. 3189)

Hon. SCOTT TIPTON,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN TIPTON: On behalf of the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District (a political subdivision of the State of Nevada), we here express our formal and strong support for your "Water Rights Protection Act" with amendments thereto proposed by you and the Honorable Markwayne Mullin of Oklahoma. This legislation signals important recognition and protection to that very special form of property right which allows the use and control of waters for beneficial uses by water right holders. This legislation will prohibit the conditioning of any permit, lease, or other use agreement on the transfer, relinquishment, or other impairment of any water right to the United States by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture. We applaud this measure.

Moreover, this Act protects communities, businesses, recreation, farmers and ranchers, and others who rely on privately held water rights for their livelihood from what constitutes a taking without compensation. Our District serves only water users that directly hold their water rights. To all such, these rights are not just important; rather, they are sacred. No justification may be made, no matter how decorative may appear its veneer, for essentially condemning a private property interest, without compensation, for expanded uses by the federal government.

Thank you for your efforts to protect water rights. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

RUSTY D. JARDINE, ESQ.,
*District Manager,
Truckee-Carson Irrigation District.*